

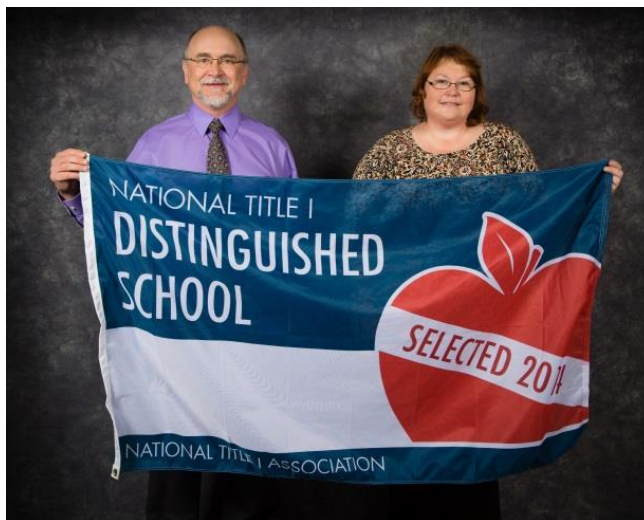


NEWS RELEASE

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TWO NEBRASKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS RECOGNIZED AS 2014 NATIONAL TITLE I DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS



D.C. West L to R, Katie Stratman & Joni Bartek, Title I Teachers; Sandy Perry, Assessment Director & HAL Teacher; Duane Krusemark, Elementary Principal

Hitchcock County School System L to R, Jon Kershaw, Elementary Principal, & Cathy Upton, Elementary Teacher

Douglas County West Elementary School in Valley and Hitchcock County Elementary in Culbertson were recognized earlier this month as Nebraska's 2014 Title I Distinguished Schools.

The schools were recognized during a national Title I conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

DC West Elementary School was selected for exceptional student performance for two or more consecutive years. Hitchcock County Elementary was named a distinguished school for closing the achievement gap between student groups.

The Nebraska Department of Education nominated the schools for the national recognition that is based on a combination of academic achievement of their students and the creative and innovative programs that contribute to their success.

“I am very proud of my staff here at Hitchcock County for creating a culture of high expectations for all students,” said John Kershaw, elementary principal at Hitchcock County School System. “We have come a long way in the past three years, and we will continue to push forward on our journey towards success.”

DC West Elementary School first received this national honor for sustaining excellence in 2009.

“DC West Elementary is proud of the strong foundation it offers students,” DC West Assessment Director Sandy Perry said, noting that the repeat recognition in 2014 exemplifies the strength of the school’s education system.

The National Title I Distinguished Schools program has recognized schools across the nation since 1996. In 2014, 63 schools were selected.

The schools demonstrate a wide array of strengths, including team approaches to teaching and learning, focused professional development opportunities for staff, individualized programs for student success and strong partnerships between the school, parents and the community.